# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP 2008 BUDGET REQUEST

Dairy Inspection Shortfall	258,500
lowa Laboratory Facility for Association Fees	90,576
Horse and Dog Inspection Shortfall	45,000
Organics Specialist for Document Review	54,671
Weights & Measures - 3 Scale Inspectors/Trucks	609,864
Two Slide-In Prover Units	37,500
Meat & Poultry FAIM Computers	37,827
Compliance/Enforcement Officer for Organics	64,539
Office of Renewable Fuels Funding	400,000
Weights & Measures - 2 Small Device Inspectors	149,599
State Apiarist	80,539
Mines and Minerals Inspector	64,703
Organics Inspector	64,801
Soil Conservation - 10 Conservation Techs	324,547
Animal Industry - Johnes	269,300
Ag Innovation Center	200,000
Soil Conservation - FARMS	15,000
Soil Conservation - Staff Training	100,000
G41 NEW Sub-Total	2,866,966
G5 Soil Commissioner Expense	
	134,000
G55 NEW Sub-Total	134,000

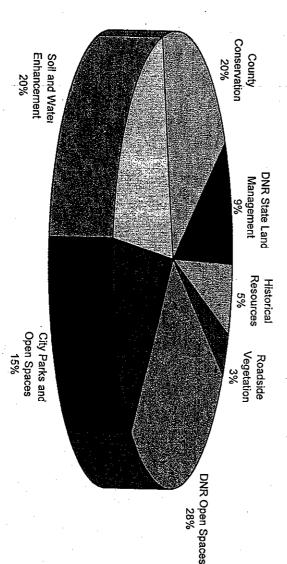
# **REAP Fund Allocations**

20,000,000

11,000,000

9,000,000

First \$350,000 allocated for conservation education 1% of the balance allocated to DNR for administration





**Budget Request: Livestock Operations** 

Sponsor: Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Staff contact: Wayne Gieselman

Amount: \$650,000 Proposed fund: GF

- This offer enhances work currently funded by the general, manure compliance, and environmental first funds totaling \$2,440,000. Livestock operations contribute to impairments such as bacteria, nutrients and toxic algae.
- The DNR has stream sample data showing extremely high levels of ammonia, fecal coliform bacteria and other pollutants originating from livestock operations. Eliminating discharges of manure from open feedlots and reducing mismanaged manure application can greatly reduce pollutants from reaching streams.
- The complexity of livestock regulations has become a major barrier to achieving compliance with those same regulations – the DNR works with state and federal agencies and producer groups to coordinate activities and educate producers, i.e., creating one nutrient management plan acceptable to three agencies.
- On-site visits and training have reduced the number of manure spills related to poor management.
- The department requests to use \$50,000 of the \$650,000 to create a user-friendly and efficient database. The current database is written in outdated software and offers little functionality for data extraction. Numerous requests for information are received from outside organizations, legislators, and producers and the data elements of interest vary depending on their intended use. Currently no user-formatted report generation capability exists. The redesign using current software will provide more functionality and allow staff the capability to tailor reports to the needs of the requestor on an ad hoc basis.





**Budget Request: Water Quantity and Allocation Program** 

Sponsor:

Staff contact: Chuck Corell, Water Quality Bureau Chief, Bob Libra, State

Geologist

Amount: \$1.6 million

Proposed fund: Environment First/GF/SRF?

- \$1.6 million to implement a more effective permitting program for water use and to conduct a comprehensive state-wide study of water availability.
- Existing fee structure of \$25 for a permit covering 10 years does not cover the costs of implementing the water use program.
- Annual allocation of General Fund money does not allow the department to
  provide the level of implementation needed to ensure that the State's water
  resources are adequately protected or managed to preclude conflicts between
  regulated users or private individuals.
- Proposed legislation requires money generated by permit fees to be used to
  review applications, issue permits, provide technical assistance to permit
  applicants, and check compliance with permit terms and to contract with qualified
  parties to gather scientific information about aquifer characteristics, quantity of
  water stored in an aquifer, and the effects of withdrawing water from an aquifer.





Budget Request: Additional funding for air quality ambient monitoring

Sponsor:

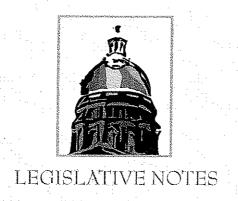
Staff contact: Catharine Fitzsimmons, Air Quality Bureau Chief

Amount: \$325,000

Proposed fund: General Fund/Environmental First

- In October 2006, U. S. EPA revised the national ambient air quality standard for particulate matter less than 2.5 microns (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) from 65 micrograms per cubic meter (μg/m3) to 35 μg/m³. Iowa's current monitoring data shows that most of lowa is close to the new standard, and that portions of eastern lowa exceed the new standard.
- New general funds are needed to match federal funds due to a shift in the federal funding mechanism. Additional general funds are also needed to replace or upgrade these monitors to meet new federal requirements.
- Inadequate funding of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring network will result in eliminating some
  monitors in rural areas. A condensed network focused primarily in urban areas
  will result in an incomplete assessment of air quality in rural areas of the state.
  Additionally, development of an effective emissions reduction strategy in areas
  that can not meet the PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards will be difficult if the sources of the
  pollution are not well characterized.
- A condensed monitoring network will require businesses seeking to construct a
  new facility or expand an existing facility to bear the burden of installing monitors
  and collecting data for the one-year preconstruction period. This will delay
  construction for such projects.





Budget Request: Additional funding for animal feeding operations ambient

monitoring program

Sponsor:

Staff contact: Catharine Fitzsimmons, Air Quality Bureau Chief

Amount: \$235,000

Proposed fund: General Fund/Environmental First

## Key considerations:

The animal feeding operations air quality field study required under lowa Code
 459.207, instructs the DNR to measure hydrogen sulfide and ammonia.

- Additional support is being requested to continue the field study of hydrogen sulfide and ammonia at 10 existing sites near large animal feeding operations.
- The data is needed to determine the public health impact of air emissions from different types of animal feeding operations.
- In contrast to EPA's Safe Harbor field study, which is focused on quantifying
  emissions from animal feeding operations, Iowa's air quality field study focuses
  on the exposure of individuals living at separated locations, as directed under
  statute.





**Budget Request: LiDAR infrared photography** 

Sponsor: The Iowa Geographic Information Council

Staff contact: Chris Ensminger

Amount: \$1.5 million

Proposed fund: RIIF/Environment First/GF?

- \$1.5 million for a combined project acquire LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) elevation data and a concurrent orthophoto of the entire state has been planned.
   The total project costs \$5.8 million. \$4.3 million of the project is currently appropriated. \$1.5 million (26% of the project) remains to be appropriated.
- The LiDAR part of the project produces data that is accurate to within 8 inches of actual elevations (current data is only available to +/- 5 feet of actual elevations).
- The orthophoto aerial presents a photograph of the ground with a 2' resolution.
   Anything 2' or larger will be unmistakeably visible.
- Acquiring both sets of data for the entire state will save counties millions of dollars. A statewide photo costs about 70% of what it would cost if each county contracted for the service on its own. The saved 30% leaves money in county budgets for other services.
- Acquiring both sets of data simultaneously is extremely important. When
  orthorectified (conjoined together) they present the landscape and its features in
  the clearest and most accurate visual possible.





# LEGISLATIVE NOTES

# **FY08 Additional Budget Requests**

Budget Request: State Park Seasonal Interns; Honey Creek Resort Staffing

Staff contact: Ken Herring, DA, Conservation & Recreation

Amount: \$700,000 annual appropriation

**Proposed fund: General Fund** 

### Key considerations:

#### **State Parks**

- State Park Seasonal Intern Program would utilize college students to better manage natural resources through carefully planned restoration efforts.
- Program would also employ naturalists to educate lowans on stewardship.
- Outdoor recreation opportunities enhanced by addressing general shortage of labor to perform routine park services.
- Shortage of seasonal labor makes it difficult to provide quality recreational opportunities while still effectively managing and protecting rare plant and animal habitat.
- Spring of 2006 state-wide survey identified strong demand by lowa citizens for environmental education programs.
- State Parks provide \$155 million annually to local economies state-wide.
- This program would also help keep young lowans in lowa and provide an opportunity for them to lean more about state natural resources.

#### **Honey Creek**

- Honey Creek Resort Park needs the addition of a new park ranger position and two naturalist positions. Honey Creek State Park does not currently have a park ranger assigned to the park.
- No staff currently assigned to Honey Creek to provide educational programming. New positions would work out of the activity center of the resort park and provide interpretive programs from the public highlighting lowa's natural heritage including plant communities, wetland resources and southern lowa ecosystems as well as cultural heritage including history and the arts of southern lowa.
- The new ranger and naturalists would serve both the resort park currently being developed and the existing state park area. The naturalists would also do programs in outlying areas in southern lowa.





# **FY08 Budget Requests**

DNR Budget Request: Iowa's Special Gems—Anglers Bay Staff contact: Marion Conover, Fisheries Bureau Chief

Amount: \$1,500,000 Proposed fund: RIIF

- The Department is requesting a continuation of funds to permanently protect or enhance those special areas that rise to the level of state "gems." Examples include areas like the Waubonsie State Park expansion in the Loess Hills (2006), unique undeveloped areas around lowa's natural lakes like Anglers Bay (2007, 2008), and riparian acres to form a protected river corridor (a possibility in 2009).
- This fund augments private investments and donations, including \$1.4 million in local matching dollars for Anglers Bay, which allow the acquisition or permanent protection of areas as they become available.
- Last year's appropriation was the first of a two-year commitment dedicated to Anglers Bay on Big Spirit Lake. Appropriations will go towards restoration of prairie and scattered wetlands native to the area.
- Anglers Bay shoreline provides unparalleled opportunities for bird watching, fishing and hunting.
- The local fishing economy has a \$2.3 million impact each year on the area.
- The area is home for declining species of aquatic plants as well as the largest,
   best quality stand of bulrushes to thrive on the lowa Great Lakes.
- A trail along the shoreline will make the lake's beauty accessible to all.

